THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) The Government allow import of technology on a selective basis where need has been established, technology does not exist within the country, or the time taken to generate the technology indigenously would delay the achievement of development targets.

(c) Technology is constantly on the move. In order to maintain international competitiveness in products and services there is need to modernise various industries; during the seventh five year plan emphasis will be on sectors relating to food, employment and productivity.

(d) Modernisation of Industry would result in much higher employment. This is to be ensured through choice of proper technology diffusion of technology, as well as upgradation of technologies to cottage, village and small industries sector.

Telephone connection for members of Parliament

3091. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Members of Parliament are entitled to a telephone connection anywhere in India, besides those in one's constituency and in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that priority is not being accorded to the Members of Parliament for the third telephone connection, even after issue of OBs by the Telecommunications Department;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Area Manager, South Delhi has not provided telephone connection to the Members of Parliament for more than three months even after the issue of orders; and

(e) if so, what action has been taken against the concerned officer and whether Government propose to issue instructions to all the Area Managers for providing of immediate telephone connections to Members of Parliament and if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. Besides the two telephone connections provided on the account of Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha, a Member of Parliament is entitled to a telephone connection on private account at his/her office|residence or at any other place where he is ordinarily available.

(b) No, Sir. Due priority is accorded in the execution of OBS issued for the provision of the third telephone connection to a Member of Parliament, subject to technical feasibility.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

Telephone calls from trunk dial PCOs

3092. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to make a call from trunk dial PCO, one has to put a minimum of 12 new one rupee coins into the coin slot;

(b) whether Government are aware of the paucity of one rupee coins in the market; and

(c) if so, what other steps Government are taking to make trunk dial from PCOs easy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir. It is not necessary to put a minimum of 12 new one rupee coins into the coin slot. One can speak even by putting lesser number of coins. The unspent coins come out as soon as the handset is replaced. Before the last coin is